

Steps to Take Now for When It's Time to Transfer Financial Decision-Making

This week's AAI **Weekly Digest** highlights these "must-read" AAI articles:



Creating and Following a Real Financial Plan

Understanding why money is important can create a framework for making better financial decisions in the future. Carl Richards, a certified financial planner, director of investor education for the BAM Alliance, and creator of the Sketch Guy column at The New York Times, talks with *AAI Journal* editor Charles Rotblut about the benefits of having an easy-to-follow financial plan.

When It's Time to Transfer Financial Decision-Making

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For individual investors who pay close attention to their financial affairs, planning for a time when they can no longer make sound decisions may seem like a remote possibility and an unnecessary step. However, these same investors may have the most to lose if they fail to properly plan for this

possibility. This article focuses on transferring financial decision-making authority, including how to organize things now to make the transition go more smoothly.



Computerized Investing's Top Personal Finance Sites

Personal finance encompasses the broad array of financial concerns that most individuals must deal with throughout their lifetimes. Banking, insurance, savings, taxes and health care issues are a few of the many aspects of personal finance that make it a daily, coming-and-going series of decisions. AAI's Computerized Investing has compiled a list of websites that offer extensive coverage on a range of personal finance issues, answering questions related to mortgages, auto loans, credit cards, CDs (certificates of deposit), money market accounts and insurance.

How to Check Out a Financial Adviser



Ideally, you spend a bit of time researching the stocks, mutual funds and ETFs you invest in. But can you say the same thing about the professionals who help you make important financial decisions? Before hiring an adviser, make sure he or she is the right person for the job. This blog post outlines some important questions you should be asking.

Our [Member Question](#) for this week is:

Which “financial advisers” do you use (select all that are applicable)?

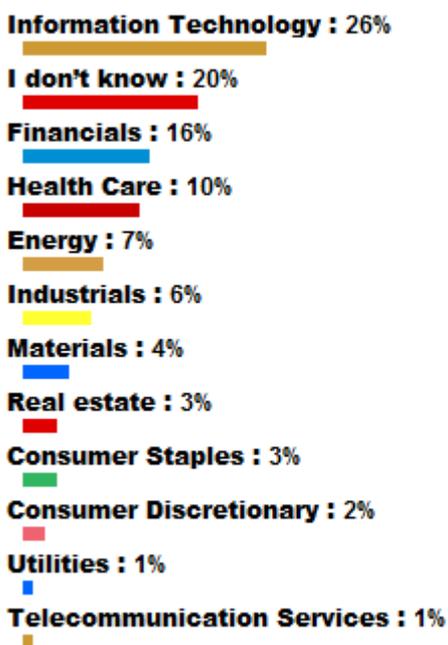
[Vote Now »](#)

Vote to answer this week’s Special Question:

If you use a financial adviser to help in the management of your investment portfolio, how did you go about researching them beforehand?

Last Week’s Results:

Health care sector funds, on average, have been the top-performing funds over the last several years. Which sector do you think will perform best over the next five years?



Poll results are as of 9 a.m. (Central) on Monday. 1,464 respondents.

[AAII Readers Predict Their Top Sector Over the Next Five](#)

[Years](#)



According to data compiled by AAIL, the health care sector has had the strongest long-term performance for the last several years. However, the latest data indicates that may be changing. To see what our readers think, we asked them which sector they think will be the best performer over the next five years. In addition, AAIL readers reveal how they decide it is time to sell a mutual fund.



[Financial Planning Resources from AAIL](#)

The Financial Planning section of AAIL.com focuses on the all-important element of personal finance. When most people think of financial planning, they automatically focus on retirement planning. While this is an important aspect of financial planning, it is not the only component. The “Financial Planning with AAIL” area includes two useful guides: Lifetime Investment Strategy and AAIL’s Tax Guide. These guides (benefits of AAIL membership) help you master the guidelines for long-term successful portfolio management as well as help you assess your current tax situation and plan for any changes. There is also a collection of must-read articles devoted to the topic of financial planning to assist you in achieving your financial goals.

The AAIL Weekly Digest is one of the many **benefits** of AAIL membership. To learn more, consider a **risk-free Trial AAIL Membership** to start becoming an effective manager of your own assets.